



**NEW ENGLAND  
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items  
2007**

**Grade 3  
Reading**

# Reading

❶ Which word rhymes with mitten?

- ☐ A. kitchen
- ☐ B. listen
- ☐ C. kitten
- ☐ D. lesson

❷ Which word has the same **ending** sound as slowly?

- ☐ A. sled
- ☐ B. lucky
- ☐ C. today
- ☐ D. rolling

*Read this story about Gus and Grandpa. Then answer the questions that follow.*

## **“All Aboard!”**

*by Claudia Mills*



Gus and Grandpa were going to ride on a real train! Mommy and Daddy and Skipper were taking Gus and Grandpa to ride a real old-time steam engine.

First they drove all day on curvy roads up and down cool green mountains. Gus sang train songs. Skipper barked along with him. Gus changed some of the words for Skipper. He sang, “I’ve been barking on the railroad.” He sang, “Riding on that old barking train.”

That night they stayed in a motel. Daddy and Mommy were tired from driving. Gus was tired from singing. Skipper was tired from barking. Grandpa was tired from listening to the singing and barking.

Early the next day, Mommy and Daddy and Skipper drove Gus and Grandpa to the train station. “Do you have the train tickets?” Daddy asked.

“You bet!” Grandpa said. “I have them hidden in a special safe place.”

Mommy and Daddy and Skipper drove away to visit some friends. Gus and Grandpa waited at the station. They walked up and down the platform. They looked at the train.

The locomotive huffed and puffed. The steam hissed and whistled. The air smelled of smoke and cinders. Then the conductor called, “All aboard!”

Gus and Grandpa climbed onto the train. Gus felt as if he were bubbling inside with happy steam. "Can I hold my own ticket?" Gus asked Grandpa.

"Sure," Grandpa said. But then Grandpa's face fell. "I hid the tickets in a special safe place," he said. "But now I cannot remember where they are."

Gus felt his happy steam all blow away. "Are they in your wallet?" Gus asked.

Grandpa checked. "No," he said.

"Are they in your pocket?" Gus asked.

Grandpa checked. "No," he said.

"We are not doing well, Gus. The other day you forgot the gate. Then we both forgot Skipper. Now I have forgotten where I put the tickets."

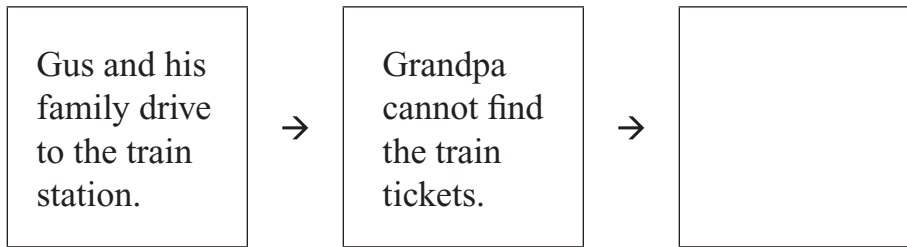
Grandpa looked very, very sad. "I'm sorry, Gus," he said.

"I know," said Gus. He felt bad that Grandpa felt bad. "It's okay."

Grandpa took off his hat and scratched his head. "Wait a minute! Here they are! I put them in my hat band!" The train whistle blew.

Gus felt his happy steam bubble over again. He and Grandpa forgot a lot of things. But Gus never forgot that he loved Grandpa. And Grandpa never forgot that he loved Gus.

Slowly the train chugged out of the station. Along the tracks, children shouted and waved at Gus and Grandpa. Together, Gus and Grandpa stood at the window and waved back.



3 Which event from the story belongs in the empty box?

- ☐ A. Gus and Grandpa wait at the train station.
- ☐ B. Gus and Grandpa stand at the window and wave at people.
- ☐ C. Gus and Grandpa climb onto the train.
- ☐ D. Gus and Grandpa get to the train station early in the day.

4 What does Gus do for his dog, Skipper?

- ☐ A. feeds him lunch
- ☐ B. takes him for a walk
- ☐ C. brings him on the train
- ☐ D. changes the words to a song

6 Where does Grandpa say he put the train tickets?

- ☐ A. in his jacket
- ☐ B. in a safe place
- ☐ C. in his wallet
- ☐ D. in a shirt pocket

5 What makes Grandpa tired?

- ☐ A. singing songs
- ☐ B. riding a long way
- ☐ C. talking a lot
- ☐ D. listening to noises

- 7 Use words from the story to fill in the chart.

What Gus and Grandpa SAW:
1.
2.
3.
4.
What Gus and Grandpa HEARD:
1.
2.
3.
4.

They walked up and down the platform.

8 The word platform means a

- ☐ A. kind of train.
- ☐ B. place for waiting.
- ☐ C. line of people.
- ☐ D. train track.

9 A locomotive is a

- ☐ A. train engine.
- ☐ B. railroad car.
- ☐ C. wooden platform.
- ☐ D. train conductor.

10 What helped Grandpa solve his problem in this story?

- ☐ A. Grandpa checked his pockets.
- ☐ B. Grandpa looked in his wallet.
- ☐ C. Grandpa scratched his head.
- ☐ D. Grandpa wore his new hat.

puffed

whistled

\_\_\_\_\_

11 Which word belongs with the words in the box?

- ☐ A. drove
- ☐ B. looked
- ☐ C. forgot
- ☐ D. hissed

12 a. How do Gus and Grandpa feel about each other?

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b. Explain how you know. Use details from the story.

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## Acknowledgments

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## Grade 3 Reading Released Item Information

Released Item Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Content Strand <sup>1</sup>	WV	WV	LI	LI	LI	LI	WV	WV	WV	LI	WV	LA
GLE Code	2-1	2-1	2-4	2-4	2-4	2-4	2-3	2-2	2-3	2-4	2-3	2-5
Depth of Knowledge Code	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2
Item Type <sup>2</sup>	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR
Answer Key	C	B	B	D	D	B		B	A	C	D	
Total Possible Points	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4

<sup>1</sup>Content Strand: WV = Word ID/Vocabulary, LI = Literary/Initial Understanding, LA = Literary/Analysis & Interpretation,  
 II = Informational/Initial Understanding, IA = Informational/Analysis & Interpretation

<sup>2</sup>Item Type: MC = Multiple Choice, CR = Constructed Response